

# St Mary's R.C. Primary School Newsletter



## Statement To Live By

Next weeks Statement to live by is: 'I try to follow our school and classroom rules' Please talk to your child about this.

## New Caretaker—welcome Mr Dundar!

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed a new caretaker, Mr Ali Dundar, who many of you will know as he is also a parent. We are very confident that Mr Dundar will be a great addition to St. Mary's and we wish him a warm welcome to our fantastic, hard working team. He starts next Monday, 26th January and Mr Fearn is meeting him this week to give him a thorough handover. In the meantime, we have a relief Caretaker, so please continue to be patient during this time of transition. We are still in the thick of winter and more potential cold snaps are on the way. Please continue to take extra care during the winter season, always looking out for those hidden icy patches. Please also ensure your child comes to school well equipped with a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves etc. We also advise that the children always have spare socks in their bag if their feet get wet, and ideally send in wellies/boots to change into when it's very wet/snowy. Roll on Spring!

## Reading and homework

A wide range of studies show that children who have always read regularly in school and beyond, are more likely to do well, both in school and the future, have strong friendships, better mental health, and even better paying jobs and happier lives! Above all, we want our children to become fluent readers and to enjoy reading!

All aspects of the curriculum and learning (especially as children move up to High School) is easier for children who can read well.

**We expect all children across the whole school to read at home daily as part of their homework and we ask parents to support us and their child here.** Children in Years 3-6 understand the expectations around Accelerated reader/Myon and our reward system where they get prizes for meeting their half termly reading targets. So get reading as reading means prizes!

## Upcoming FPTA event: Teacher for the day

Don't miss out on tickets for this. The last day for ticket sales is next Tuesday, 20th January. Tickets are purchased in class.

## Correct Uniform

**A reminder to our parents about school uniform expectations. By sending your child to our school, there is an expectation that you follow our school policies including our school uniform policy. Even if parents disagree with aspects of our school policy, we still expect all children to follow our school rules, just as adults have to adhere to dress codes in many work places.** Please note the following:

- Ties MUST be worn at all times. If they get lost, a replacement should be bought from school and cost £2.50 from the school office
- No jewellery apart from a plain watch (not apple/smart watches) and small plain studs (**not hoops**) and earrings MUST be removed for PE. Bracelets, wristbands and rings are not allowed
- School shoes should be plain, black, sensible and safe.
- Hairstyles should be sensible and not extreme.
- **Parents should speak to Mrs Ruane, the Class teacher or office staff if they are struggling financially and we can support here, discreetly of course.**

## Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure your child is always here on time to start the school day **prompt at 8.45am**. We appreciate that traffic can be terrible getting in and out of Littleborough at times. And it can really catch us all out! However, we ask our parents to do your best to work around this and get your child to school on time as they miss so much valuable time with five/ten minutes lateness here and there.

## Church news

School/class masses are currently on hold while Father recovers from his recent illness. Class masses will resume when Father is feeling better. We all keep Father in our thoughts and pray for a speedy recovery.

## Head Boy/Girl

Well done to all the class champion winners this week and to year 3 for winning class of the week  
Good luck to everyone who has bought raffle tickets for teacher for the day, it should be a lot of fun!  
Enjoy your weekend :)

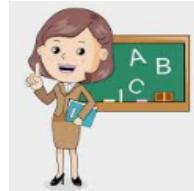
16TH JANUARY 2026

## **DIARY DATES**

### Teacher For A Day 23rd January

Tickets are still on sale for Teacher for a day

Tickets can be bought from class - Draw 21st Jan



### Valentines Disco

Thursday 12th February - Details will be sent out soon



## **AWARDS**

### **Class Champion Awards**

**Nursery - Edoardo**  
**Reception - Sean**  
**Year 1 - Beau**  
**Year 2 - Cameron**  
**Year 3 - Harleigh**  
**Year 4 - Mabel**  
**Year 5 - Laila**  
**Year 6 - Maison**

**Winning House this week:**  
**St Andrew's**  
**Class of the week:**  
**Year 3**

